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FRINTON AND WALTON  
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



# ANNUAL REPORT

*of the*

MEDICAL OFFICER  
OF HEALTH

FOR 1950



*Printed by  
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# Frinton & Walton Urban District Council

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## Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for 1950

Chairman of the Council :

H. A. GIRT, J.P.

Vice-Chairman of the Council

W. E. GRANT

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### **PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE**

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H. J. PARKER

E. J. W. PLUMMER

Public Health Department,  
The Council House,  
Frinton-on-Sea.

September, 1951

To the Chairman and Members of the  
Frinton and Walton Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Cooper, and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report which deals with the health and sanitary circumstances of the Urban District for the year 1950.

I took up my appointment as Medical Officer of Health in June, 1950, and my responsibility for the work dates from that month onwards.

The vital statistics for the year, in-so-far as they may be used as an index of the general health of the population, may be said to be satisfactory.

Our birth rate shows a sharp decline compared to the annual rates for the post war years, and is considerably lower than the figure for England and Wales.

The death rate, the tuberculosis death rate, and the infant mortality rate compare favourably with the national figures.

Notifications received of infectious diseases compare with those for England and Wales, with the exception of Measles which was less than half as prevalent in comparison.

I have included in this report a brief survey of the main facts of the trends in populations for England and Wales which I think will be found of some interest and value.

In presenting this report, I wish to thank the Council for their support, and also to express my appreciation for the help and co-operation received from the various officers and their departments of the Council, and particularly to the Sanitary Inspector.

I would like also to convey my thanks to my predecessor, Dr. J. Ramshottom, for the help he has afforded to me in my early days as your Medical Officer of Health.

I am,  
Your obedient Servant,  
F. GROARKE,

Medical Officer of Health

# STATISTICAL MEMORANDUM

Urban District ... .. Urban District of Frinton and Walton

Area in acres ... .. 6,293

Population :

1931 Census ... .. 7,329

1950 Registrar General's Estimate ... .. 8,224

Density of population per acre ... .. 1.3

Rateable Value ... .. £109,053

Sum represented by penny rate ... .. £431

Number of inhabited houses ... .. 3,035

Total live births ... .. 88

Birth rate ..... 10.7

Birth rate corrected ... .. 11.8

Total still births ... .. 3

Still birth rate ... .. 32.9

Total deaths ... .. 113

Death rate (crude) ... .. 13.7

Death rate corrected ... .. 9.7

Deaths of infants under 1 year of age ... .. 2

Infantile Mortality rate ... .. 22.7

Number of Illegitimate births ... .. 4

Percentage of total births ... .. 4.5

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) ... Nil

Cancer death rate ... .. 2,675

Tuberculosis death rate ... .. 243

## VITAL STATISTICS

### (a) LIVE BIRTHS:

			Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	...	...	46	38	84
Illegitimate	...	...	1	3	4
			—	—	—
			47	41	88
			—	—	—

Birth rate ... .. 10.7 per 1,000 population  
 Percentage of illegitimate births ... .. 4.5

The birth rate of England and Wales was 15.8 per 1,000 population, our rate is, therefore, 5.1 below that for the country generally.

A reason for this inequality is due to the difference in the age and sex distribution of the Urban District from the country as a whole.

A comparability factor is therefore issued by the Registrar General. The figure for Frinton and Walton is 1.11, giving a corrected birth rate of 11.8.

### (b) STILL BIRTHS:

There were 3 still births (3 legitimate) during the year, equivalent to a rate of 0.36 per 1,000 population as compared with 0.37 for the country generally, or 32.9 per 1,000 total births.

### (c) DEATHS:

The total number of deaths registered during the year as belonging to the Urban District was 113,63 male and 50 female, This is equal to a death rate of 13.7 per 1,000 population compared with a rate of 11.6 for the country generally.

This inequality is due to the reasons given in the paragraph on Births. The comparability factor is 0.71 giving a corrected death rate of 9.7.

Of the 113 deaths, the number over the age of 65 years total 82 giving a percentage of 72.5.

The causes of death are given in Table II.

### (d) INFANT MORTALITY RATE:

There were 2 deaths (legitimate) of children under 1 year of age. The infant mortality based upon the number of live births registered in the year, i.e., 88, is equivalent to a rate of 22.7 per 1,000 births compared with a rate of 29.8 for the country.

### (e) Among the principal causes of death are the following:

Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	1
Bronchitis	...	...	6
Influenza	...	...	1
Cancer	...	...	22
Intracranial Vascular Lesions	...	...	13
Heart Disease	...	...	45



TABLE I

## DEATHS AT VARIOUS AGES DURING 1950

Under 1 year	...	...	...	...	2
2 and under 5 years	...	...	...	...	—
5 and under 15 years	...	...	...	...	1
15 and under 25 years	...	...	...	...	1
25 and under 35 years	...	...	...	...	1
35 and under 45 years	...	...	...	...	2
45 and under 55 years	...	...	...	...	6
55 and under 65 years	...	...	...	...	18
65 and under 75 years	...	...	...	...	32
75 years and upwards	...	...	...	...	50
<hr/>					
<b>Total</b>		...	...	...	113
<hr/>					

## DISTRIBUTION OF THE DEATHS

		Frinton	Walton	Kirby	Gt. Holland
Total Deaths	...	27	49	26	11
Infant Deaths	...	—	2	—	—

TABLE II  
CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1950 (R.G.)

Causes of death	Male	Female	Total
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ... . . . .	—	1	1
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	1	—	1
Cancer ... . . . .	13	9	22
Diabetes ... . . . .	—	1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	4	9	13
Heart Disease ... . . . .	27	18	45
Other circulatory diseases ... . .	3	3	6
Influenza ... . . . .	—	1	1
Bronchitis ... . . . .	4	2	6
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	1	—	1
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea ...	1	—	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis ... . .	1	1	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	4	4	8
Motor Vehicle accidents ... . .	2	—	2
All other accidents ... . . . .	1	2	3
	—	—	—
All causes ... . .	62	51	113
	—	—	—

TABLE III  
INFANTILE DEATHS

The following table shows the causes of, and the ages at death, of the 2 infantile deaths registered:

	Under 1 day	1 day to 1 week	1 week to 1 mth.	1 to 2 mths.	2 to 4 mths.	4 to 6 mths.	6 to 12 mths.	Total
Atelectasis .. ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Prematurity .. ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2

TABLE IV.  
COMPARATIVE STATISTICS

Birth rates, Death rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal  
Mortality and Case rates for certain Infectious Diseases in the Year  
1950. Provisional figures based on Quarterly Returns.

Rates per 1,000 Home Population

						F. & W. U.D.C.	England & Wales
<b>Births :</b>							
Live Births (Corrected)	...	...	...	...	...	11.8	15.8
Still Births	...	...	...	...	...	0.36	0.37
<b>Deaths :</b>							
All causes (Corrected)	...	...	...	...	...	9.7	11.6
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	...	...	...	...	...	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	0.00	0.01
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	0.00	0.00
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	0.24	0.36
Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	0.12	0.10
Smallpox	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Acute poliomyelitis (including Polio- encephalitis)	...	...	...	...	...	0.00	0.02
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	0.00	0.46
<b>Notifications (Corrected) :</b>							
Typhoid Fever	...	...	...	...	...	0.00	0.00
Paratyphoid Fever	...	...	...	...	...	0.00	0.01
Meningococcal Infection	...	...	...	...	...	0.12	0.03
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	1.90	1.50
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	3.70	3.60
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	0.00	0.02
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	0.36	0.17
Smallpox	...	...	...	...	...	0.00	0.00
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	3.70	8.59
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	0.85	0.70
Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polio- encephalitis)	...	...	...	...	...	0.24	0.13
Paralytic	...	...	...	...	...	0.00	0.05
Non-paralytic	...	...	...	...	...	0.00	0.17
Food Poisoning	...	...	...	...	...	0.00	0.17
Rates per 1,000 Live Births							
<b>Deaths :</b>							
All causes under 1 year of age	...	...	...	...	...	22.7	29.8*
Enteritis and diarrhoea under 2 years of age	...	...	...	...	...	0.00	1.9
<b>Notifications (Corrected) Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births</b>							
Puerperal fever and pyrexia	...	...	...	...	...	0.00	5.81
* Per 1,000 related live births							

# MATERNAL MORTALITY IN ENGLAND & WALES

Cause	Rates per 1,000 Total		Rates per million	
	(Live and Still) Births		women aged 15-44	
	F & W U.D.C.	England & Wales	F & W U.D.C.	England & Wales
Abortion with sepsis ...	0.00	0.09	—	7
Other abortion ...	0.00	0.05	—	4
Complication of pregnancy and delivery	0.00	0.54		
Sepsis of Childbirth and the puerperium ...	0.00	0.03		
Other complications of the puerperium ...	0.00	0.15		

## SECTION B

### GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

#### Public Health Staff :

Medical Officer of Health :

F. GROARKE, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., L.M., D.P.H., D.C.H.  
Also M.O.H. Brightlingsea U.D., Clacton U.D., Tendring R.D., and  
Assistant County Medical Officer, Essex C.C.

Sanitary Inspector : J. Gray, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., Meat & Food Cert.  
Clerk : Miss D. Crane.

#### LABORATORY FACILITIES

Specimens for bacteriological examinations are sent to the Public Health Laboratory, Borough General Hospital, Ipswich.

Pathological examinations are carried out at the Essex County Hospital, Colchester.

The bacteriological examination of water supplies, milk supplies, and ice cream, is carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, Ipswich.

Samples for the chemical analysis of water and sewage are still sent to the Counties Public Health Laboratories, 66, Victoria Street, London, S.W. 1.

#### AMBULANCE FACILITIES

This service is maintained by the County Council.

HOSPITALS. (N.E. Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board).

General.—Cases are admitted to the Colchester Essex County Hospital, and the Clacton Hospital.

Infectious Diseases.—Cases are admitted to the Myland Hospital, Colchester.

#### NURSING HOMES

There are four Nursing Homes in the District registered by the County Council :

St. Ninian's, Queen's Road, Frinton, with accommodation for four chronic, aged, or infirm patients .

The Yew Trees, Kirby-le-Soken, with accommodation for six similar cases.

Lammermoor Nursing Home, The Esplanade, for 25 patients.

Woodberry House, Fourth Avenue, Frinton, with accommodation for six patients.

## MIDWIVES AND HOME NURSING.

It is a duty of the Local Health Authority to provide Domiciliary Midwives and Nurses to attend persons who require nursing in their own homes. For this purpose, two District Nurse Midwives are employed in the Urban District.

One private Midwife also resides in the area.

## CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES :

The Essex County Council is both the Maternity and Child Welfare and the Education Authority for this area.

### CHILD WELFARE CLINIC :

The Congregational Church Hall, Station Street, Walton; 1st and 3rd Wednesdays in each month.

Minor Ailments—School Children can attend the above Clinic.

Immunisation Clinics.—Immunisation against Diphtheria is carried out at the above.

The following Clinics are held at the Welfare Centre, Skelmersdale Road, Clacton, which can be attended by appointment :

ANTE- NATAL CLINIC

WOMEN'S WELFARE CLINIC

OPHTHALMIC CLINIC

ORTHOPAEDIC CLINIC (Masseuse).

DENTAL CLINIC

PSYCHIATRIST CLINIC

### TUBERCULOSIS :

A Clinic is held every Friday, 11 a.m.—12 noon at the Welfare Centre, Skelmersdale Road, Clacton.

### NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

It was not necessary during 1950 to take action under Section 47 of this Act which empowers Local Authorities to remove to hospital persons in need of care and attention.

## SECTION C

### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Including the Report of the Sanitary Inspector.

#### 1.—WATER SUPPLY.

The piped water supply is through the mains of the Tendring Hundred Waterworks Company from their deep wells at Mistley. The water is of a high standard of purity both chemically and bacteriologically, but is exceptionally hard. The supply is generally satisfactory in quantity for the normal population of the area, but during the summer months the water pressure in the mains at the Naze area of Walton-on-Naze is often inadequate during the daytime because of the additional demands made by the heavy influx of visitors. During 1949 the position was brought to the notice of the Waterworks Company, the representations made for the water pressure to be substantially increased in the area affected.

Below is a chemical and bacteriological report of the Public Health Laboratory upon a sample recently taken from the mains of the Tendring Hundred Waterworks Company.

#### CHEMICAL FINDINGS IN PARTS PER MILLION

Year Ending 31st December, 1950.

	Maximum	Minimum
Colour ... ..	Less than 10	Nil
Reaction pH ... ..	7.8	7.3
Electric Conductivity at 20 degrees C. ...	1050	820
Chlorine in Chlorides ... ..	184	104
Hardness: Total ... ..	275	260
Temporary ... ..	270	250
Permanent ... ..	5	10
Nitrogen in Nitrates ... ..	0.6	0
Free Ammonia ... ..	0.44	0.32
Metals. Iron ... ..	0.20	0.10
Turbidity (Silica Scale) ... ..	5	Less than 5
Odour ... ..	Nil	Nil
Free Carbon Dioxide ... ..	18	8
Total Solids, dried at 180 degrees C. ...	960	545
Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate ... ..	270	250
Nitrogen in Nitrites ... ..	0.01	Less than 0.01
Oxygen absorbed in 4hrs. at 27 degrees C. ...	0.30	0.05
Residual Chlorine ... ..	0.20	Absent
Albuminoid Ammonia ... ..	.006	0

## BACTERIOLOGICAL RESULTS

Presumptive Coliform Reaction	...	...	Present	—
			Absent from 100 ml.	
Bact. Coli.	...	...	Present	—
			Absent from 100 ml.	
Cl. Welchii Reaction	...	...	Present	—
			Absent from 100 ml.	
No. of Colonies developing on Agar per cc or ml.	1 day at 37 C.		2 days at 37 C.	
	0		0	
	3 days at 20 C.			
	0			

## REMARKS

These samples are practically clear and bright in appearance, neutral in reaction, and free from metals apart from a minute trace of iron. The water is hard in character, but its hardness and its content of mineral and saline constituents in solution are not excessive. It is of a high standard of organic quality and bacterial purity.

These results are indicative of a water which is pure and wholesome in character and suitable for public supply purposes.

A number of cottages in the village of Kirby-le-Soken obtain water from a public well which is piped to seven points in the main street. The water is satisfactory both in quality and quantity. The report on a sample sent for examination reads as follows:—

“This sample is clear and bright in appearance and is of a high standard of bacterial purity.

These results are indicative of a water which is wholesome in character and suitable for public supply purposes.”

Some 220 cottages in the villages and Walton-on-Naze still obtain water from separate or common main water standpipes in yards. Where practicable, owners are persuaded to provide internal kitchen supplies: Six internal supplies were laid on during the year.

A few houses in the rural areas rely for water on private wells, which are kept under observation.

The approximate number of dwelling houses supplied by public water mains is:—

	Houses	Population
A. Direct to houses	2668	7410
B. Standpipes	230	650



## 2.—RIVERS AND STREAMS POLLUTION.

No action was taken during the year.

## 3.—SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

(a) **Sewerage.** At Frinton the sewers are laid to fall to a sea outfall situated to the west of the town and opposite the Golf Course, where discharge is by gravitation at all states of the tide. Overflow in the case of exceptional storm discharges to the sea at two points on the front.

The sewage at Walton gravitates to storage tanks at the sewage works from which it is pumped through a sea outfall at certain stages of tide which take the effluent away from the shore. During storms the additional flow is conveyed through a storm sewer laid along Mill Lane and discharging into the Walton Channel.

Sewage from Kirby Cross and Lower Kirby is treated at sewage works off Maltings Lane, the effluent discharging into a watercourse, while a small sewerage system at Great Holland is connected to treatment works near Church Lane. Consideration is being given by the Council to a major drainage scheme for the whole district and the treatment of sewage at new disposal works instead of discharge to the sea, and a revised estimate for the pre 1939 scheme has been prepared by the Council's Consulting Engineer. No decision has yet been reached.

(b) **Drainage.** The greater part of the district is sewered and the majority of houses are on the water-carriage system of drains, but there are a number of cesspools and septic tanks in use in the rural areas parts of which are not yet sewered. Owners of properties are persuaded to connect drainage systems with the main sewer where practicable, and a few connections were made during the year under review. Various improvements to drainage have been carried out during the year. Conditions of drainage in the village of Great Holland, and to a lesser extent in Lower Kirby, can be improved only by the introduction of a sewerage system.

### (c) **Closest Accommodation.**

Pail closets in the Urban District (approx.)	...	...	321
Chemical closets in the Urban District (approx.)	...	...	46
Cesspools in the Urban District (approx.)	...	...	91
Wells in the Urban District (approx.)	...	...	26
Houses having cesspools and wells (approx.)	...	...	7

## 4.—HOUSE REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

The present arrangements are satisfactory. The Council's fleet of collection vehicles consists of Thornycroft and Bedford vehicles, three of which are in commission all the year round. A fourth collection vehicle is brought into use for seasonal work.

### 5.—MORTUARY.

A fully equipped Mortuary, including post-mortem room, is provided in Walton-on-Naze Cemetery. Cleansing and maintenance arrangements are under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector.

### 6.—ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

No. of Infested Houses	Council Houses	Nil
	Other Houses	4
Number of Houses Disinfested	Council Houses	Nil
	Other Houses	4

#### Methods Employed in Disinfestation.

Loosening skirting boards, picture rails and other wood-work, lifting floorboards if necessary, stripping wallpaper, etc., followed by spraying walls, ceilings, floors and furniture with an approved Insecticide containing D.D.T. and/or fumigation with special fumigators, the procedure being repeated at intervals until disinfestation is complete. Steam disinfection of bedding.

The Council undertake this work at the expense of occupiers if requested to do so. In other cases, disinfestation is carried out by the occupiers under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector who provides the apparatus and materials upon request.

### 7.—SCHOOLS.

The sanitary condition of Primary and Secondary Schools and Private Schools is satisfactory. Close co-operation exists between the Education Authority and the Council in all matters relating to the health of school children.

### 8.—BYELAWS

Byelaws relating to the following matters are in operation.

- (a) Camping Grounds and Movable Dwellings (1936).
- (b) Cleansing of Earth-closets, Privies and Cesspools (1936).
- (c) Slaughterhouses (1936).
- (d) Nuisances (1936).
- (e) Hairdressers' and Barbers' Premises (1936).
- (f) Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food (1950).

# REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR YEAR 1950.

## Refuse Collection and Disposal.

(a) **Collection.** Domestic refuse is collected and removed by direct labour once weekly throughout the entire district, and the service is considered to be very satisfactory. Frequent collection of refuse from hotels and boarding houses, restaurants and cafes, and camping grounds are made during the summer months, when a special collection vehicle is brought into use for the purpose.

The special trade refuse collection service continued to operate satisfactorily. Receipts were approximately £144.

Refuse collected from all sources totalled 3,700 tons approximately.

(b) **Removal.** Three modern motor dustless refuse vehicles are engaged in the work all the year round, and a fourth vehicle is brought into commission during the summer months. The vehicles are regularly inspected, and maintenance work and running repairs are carried out by the Council's mechanic as required.

(c) **Disposal.** Refuse is taken by the collection vehicles to a Tip in low marshy land situated at Lower Kirby about half a mile from the village, where it is tipped and burnt. The Tip is in satisfactory condition having regard to the amount of refuse handled by the single labourer and the shortage of suitable covering materials. Rodents are controlled by regular poisoning campaigns carried out by the Council's rodent operative.

(d) **Salvage.** The weight and value of salvage collected and sold during the year is given in the following summary:—

	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.	£	s.	d.
Waste paper of all categories	8	4	0	21	46	6	2
Metals ... ..	2	12	1	23	15	13	9
Rags, Woollens ... ..	2	4	0	27	56	7	0
Bones ... ..		9	0	0	2	11	9
String ... ..			1	22		1	6
	13	10	1	9	121	0	2

In consequent of urgent national appeals to local authorities to collect more waste paper in order to build up diminished stocks at Paper Mills, the Council decided towards the end of the year to resume full scale collections as from 1st January, 1951. At the same time the Council entered into a five-year contract with the Thames Board Mills Limited for the sale, at guaranteed prices of the Council's entire output of waste paper salvage.

**Street Scavenging.** Roads are regularly scavenged by street sweepers supplied with orderly trucks, the more important roads being swept daily. The cleansing of about 29 miles of classified roads, including the main shopping centres at Frinton-on-Sea and Walton-on-Naze, is also undertaken by the Council.

**Public Conveniences.** Satisfactory arrangements are made for the maintenance and cleansing of the 12 public conveniences in the Urban District. As reported last year, there is need for the provision of another sanitary convenience at the north end of Connaught Avenue, Frinton-on-Sea, and the provision of intermediary conveniences between those already provided on the sea front appears to be desirable.

### SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Summary of Sanitary Inspector's Visits and Inspections:

Nature of Inspections	No. of Inspections
Sanitary Nuisances ... ..	49
Infectious Diseases ... ..	36
Food Inspections ... ..	58
Food Vehicles ... ..	27
Bakeries ... ..	29
Butchers' Premises ... ..	73
Fish-Frying Premises ... ..	34
Ice Cream Premises and Vehicles ... ..	77
Hotel Kitchens ... ..	7
Restaurant Kitchens ... ..	59
Other Food Premises ... ..	23
Licensed Premises ... ..	11
Cowsheds, Dairies and Milkshops ... ..	37
Slaughter Houses ... ..	2
Camping Grounds ... ..	126
Beach Estates ... ..	7
Special Treatment Premises ... ..	4
Factories and Workplaces ... ..	34
Public Conveniences ... ..	162
Refuse Collection and Disposal ... ..	35
Mortuary ... ..	9
Rodent Control ... ..	154
Petroleum Acts ... ..	21
Tenancy Applications ... ..	59
Schools ... ..	3
Water Supply ... ..	5
Drainage ... ..	91
Houseboats ... ..	4

### NOTICES SERVED

Informal Notices, including letters and verbal instructions ... ..	292
Statutory Notices under Public Health Act ... ..	8

# DETAILS OF SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS EFFECTED DURING THE YEAR

## Housing Repairs and Improvements :

External Brickwork repaired	...	...	10
Defective walls rebuilt	...	...	7
Walls underpinned	...	...	6
Walls rendered in cement	...	...	18
Brickwork pointed	...	...	7
Wall cement render repaired	...	...	5
Damp walls treated	...	...	11
Damp-proof courses provided	...	...	4
Roofs repaired	...	...	15
Gutters and spouting renewed	...	...	6
Gutters and spouting repaired	...	...	9
Kitchens enlarged	...	...	2
Kitchens renovated	...	...	3
Floor ventilation improved	...	...	3
Floor ventilation provided	...	...	5
Floors renewed	...	...	14
Floors repaired	...	...	12
Wall plaster repaired or renewed	...	...	11
Ceilings repaired	...	...	9
Ceilings renewed	...	...	4
Doors repaired or renewed	...	...	5
Doorsteps repaired	...	...	5
Windows repaired or renewed	...	...	8
Windows, additional, provided	...	...	2
Fireplaces repaired or renewed	...	...	4
Cooking ranges renewed	...	...	2
Larder ventilation provided	...	...	4
Larder ventilation improved	...	...	7
Yards paved in cement concrete	...	...	2
Hot water systems repaired	...	...	2
Baths provided	...	...	4

## Drainage :

Drainage systems provided	...	...	4
Drainage systems renewed	...	...	2
Drainage systems repaired	...	...	18
Drainage systems cleansed	...	...	14
Drainage systems examined and tested	...	...	27
Cesspools cleansed and repaired	...	...	7
W.C. accommodation rebuilt	...	...	4
W.C. accommodation repaired	...	...	11
W.C. accommodation cleansed and decorated	...	...	8
W.C. pans provided	...	...	14
W.C. flushing cisterns repaired	...	...	5
W.C. flushing cisterns provided	...	...	13

Kitchen sinks renewed	...	...	...	8
Kitchen sinks provided	...	...	...	10
Surface water drainage improvements	...	...	...	4
Water Supply :				
Internal water supply (main) provided	...	...	...	6
Water mains repaired	...	...	...	1
Water mains renewed	...	...	...	2
Service pipes repaired	...	...	...	8
Miscellaneous :				
Animal nuisances abated	...	...	...	4
Piggeries improved	...	...	...	2
Ditches cleansed and piped	...	...	...	4
Accumulations removed	...	...	...	7
Rooms cleansed	...	...	...	5
Rooms disinfested	...	...	...	11
Sanitary dustbins provided	...	...	...	29

#### FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948

Inspections of Factories for purposes of provisions as to health, including inspections made by the Sanitary Inspector.

Premises	No. on Register	Inspections	No. of Written & verbal Notices
Factories without Mechanical power	38	21	7
Factories with Mechanical power	53	13	3
	91	34	10
	—	—	—

#### DEFECTS REMEDIED

Particulars	Found	Remedied
Want of cleanliness	2	2
Inadequate ventilation	1	1
Defective drainage of floors	—	—
Sanitary conveniences :—		
Insufficient	2	2
Unsuitable or defective	—	—
Other offences	5	5
	10	10
	—	—



# INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD & FOOD PREMISES

## Improvements Carried out to Food Premises During Year 1950

### Provision Merchants :

Cellar food storage accommodation damp-proofed	—	1
Cellar food storage accommodation ventilation im- proved ... ..	—	1
Floor repairs and renewals ... ..	—	6
Roof repairs ... ..	—	2
Skylight repairs ... ..	—	2
Roof guttering repaired ... ..	—	4
Shop heating arrangements provided ... ..	—	2
Staff washing accommodation provided ... ..	—	2
Staff washing accommodation improved ... ..	—	2
Staff washing accommodation cleansed and de- corated ... ..	—	4
Constant supplies of hot water provided ... ..	—	4
Towels and soap provided for staff use ... ..	—	3
Defective wash-hand basins renewed ... ..	—	3
Additional wash-hand basins provided ... ..	—	2
Shops and storerooms redecorated ... ..	—	9

### Restaurants :

Conversion into modern restaurant ... ..	—	1
Kitchen extended to provide additional working space and improved lighting and venti- lation ... ..	—	1
Separate staff washing accommodation provided	—	3
Enclosed crockery storage cupboards provided	—	3
Kitchens cleansed and decorated ... ..	—	3
Kitchen lighting improved ... ..	—	1
Yards adjoining kitchens cleansed ... ..	—	2
Automatic sprays for destruction of flies and in- sects installed in food kitchens ... ..	—	4

### Butcheries :

Kitchen and cutting-up room extended to provide additional working space and improved lighting and ventilation ... ..	—	1
Staff Washing accommodation provided ... ..	—	2
Cleansing and redecoration of walls ... ..	—	3
Cleansing of floors ... ..	—	1
Refrigerators cleansed and painted ... ..	—	3

### Bakeries :

Additional windows provided ... ..	—	1
Additional ventilation provided ... ..	—	1

Internal wall surfaces cement rendered	...	—	5
Internal part wall glazed tiled	...	—	2
Screened bread storage accommodation provided			
in yard	...	—	1

**Dairies:**

Bottle washing arrangements improved	...	—	2
Modern bottle washing machine installed	...	—	1
New wash tanks installed	...	—	2
Hot water supplies improved	...	—	1
Yard drainage improved	...	—	1
Delivery van repaired, cleansed and decorated		—	1
Other improvements	...	—	4

**Fish Shops:**

Additional lighting and ventilation provided	...	—	1
Part wall cement rendered	...	—	1
Cleansing and redecoration of rooms	...	—	2
Cleansing and redecoration of cold store	...	—	1
Hot water supplies provided	...	—	2

**Refreshment Kiosks:**

Ice cream conservators and candy floss machines			
screened from dust contamination	...	—	6
Washing-up sink provided	...	—	1
Drainage provided	...	—	1
Drainage improved	...	—	2
Hot water supply provided	...	—	1

**Licensed Premises:**

Beer storage cellars cleansed and lime-washed	...	—	2
Double-unit washing-up sinks provided	...	—	1
Defective washing-up sinks renewed	...	—	3
Drainage provided	...	—	1
Drainage improved	...	—	2
Hot water supplies provided or improved	...	—	3
Beer pump pipe-lines renewed	...	—	1
Staff sanitary accommodation provided	...	—	1
Staff sanitary accommodation improved	...	—	1

**Bakeries.**—The ten bakeries in the area received 29 inspectional visits during the year. Generally, the premises and equipment were found to be in clean condition whenever inspected, but it is still necessary on occasion to remind proprietors that internal walls must be lime-washed regularly. Bakery staff personal hygiene is considered to be satisfactory and all premises are provided with adequate staff washing facilities. A few improvements were carried out following informal action.

**Milk Supply.**—No serious faults were found during inspections of dairy premises and milkshops. Dairies are in good structural condition, well lighted and ventilated and provided with ade-



quate supplies of hot and cold water. Drainage arrangements are satisfactory. Modern equipment is in use in connection with the bottle washing and milk bottling processes. Satisfactory reports were received upon a number of milk samples submitted for bacteriological examination to the Public Health Laboratory, Borough General Hospital, Ipswich.

**Meat Supply.**—Meat is allocated at Colchester under Ministry of Food control and transported in covered vans direct to local butchers' premises, where it is inspected as occasion arises by the Sanitary Inspector. Only a very small quantity of meat had to be condemned during the year. The condition of meat vans is kept under observation, together with the handling and distribution of meat by the van-men. Any matter calling for attention is referred to the Ministry of Food Headquarters at Colchester.

**Foodshops.**—Numerous supervisory visits and inspections were made of all premises where food is manufactured, prepared and stored for sale. A substantial number of improvements (see List) were carried out to premises and equipment as a result of informal action, and in this connection tribute should be paid to the majority of foodshop proprietors who readily accepted and carried out most improvements suggested. The hygienic handling and distribution of foodstuffs continued to be the subject of special attention during supervisory visits. Byelaws for securing the observance of sanitary and cleanly conditions and practices in connection with the handling, etc., of food, were introduced by the Council and commenced to operate in the Urban District on 19th May, 1950. Local publicity and personal visits to premises undertaken by the Public Health Department assisted in good measure in bringing home to foodshop personnel the importance of food hygiene, but it is considered that managements of food premises, particularly of smaller shops, should take a more active part in this connection.

**Ice Cream.**—At the end of the year there were 4 manufacturers and 47 vendors of ice cream on the Register. Premises were regularly inspected and in all cases found to comply with the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations, 1947. A number of ice-cream samples were sent for bacteriological examination. Ten samples were placed in Grade I of the M. of H. Provisional Grading, two in Grade II, one in Grade III, and one in Grade IV. Representations made to both vendors and manufacturers of ice-cream placed in Grades III and IV had the required effect, as repeat samples were satisfactorily reported upon.

## FOODSTUFFS CONDEMNED DURING 1950.

### Fresh Meat :

Lamb	...	...	...	...	...	10 lbs.
------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---------

### Tinned Meats :

Luncheon Meat	...	...	27 tins	...	55 lbs.
Veal Loaf	...	...	4 tins	...	5 lbs.
Beef loaf	...	...	3 tins	...	2 lbs.
Pork	...	...	2 tins	...	4 lbs.
Ham	...	...	3 tins	...	30 lbs.

### Tinned Fish :

Pilchards	...	...	2 tins	...	1 lb.
Sardines	...	...	2 tins	...	1 lb.

### Tinned Milk :

Evaporated milk	...	99 tins	...	99 lbs.
Full-cream milk	...	26 tins	...	26 lbs.
Condensed milk	...	28 tins	...	3 lbs.

### Other Tinned Foods :

Beans	...	2 tins	...	1 lb.
Soups	...	2 tins	...	1 lb.
Pineapple	...	2 tins	...	2 lbs.
Spinach	...	5 tins	...	10 lbs.
Peaches	...	2 tins	...	4 lbs.
Pears	...	6 tins	...	9 lbs.
Plums	...	6 tins	...	6 lbs.
Marmalade	...	2 tins	...	2 lbs.
Orange juice	...	2 tins	...	4 lbs.
Apples	...	2 tins	...	12 lbs.

### Other Foods :

Horse radish	...	1 jar	...	1 lb.
Olives	...	2 jars	...	2 lbs.
Lemon juice	...	1 bottle	...	
Nescafe	...	1 tin	...	
Cod roe	...	1 jar	...	2 lbs.
Eggs	...	120	...	10 doz.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND DISINFECTION

Thirty-six visits of inspection were made in connection with infectious disease control, and twelve special reports submitted to the Medical Officer of Health.

### Disinfection.

Rooms and contents fumigated	...	29
Caravans and contents fumigated	...	2
School dormitories fumigated	...	4
Library books disinfected	...	4
Bedding steam disinfected	...	7
Clothing steam disinfected	...	3

## PORT SANITATION

No action was required under the Port Sanitary Regulations.

## CAMPING GROUNDS

Frequent inspections by the Sanitary Inspector ensured that the sanitary circumstances of all camping sites were maintained in satisfactory condition during the year, but having regard to the growth and popularity of caravan camping, particularly in Walton-on-Naze, the time has arrived when the Council should secure a greater measure of control than that provided by Byelaws in operation under the provisions of the Essex County Council Act, 1933. The short-comings of the Byelaws in relation to density and spacing of caravans, water supply, etc., cannot satisfactorily be overcome on commercial sites by persuasive powers alone and because of this and other difficulties it is considered important that the Council should acquire the greater powers of control provided by Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936, whereby camping sites can be licensed subject to compliance by site owners of public health conditions stipulated by the Council.

## RODENT CONTROL

During the year, the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, replaced the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919. The new Act came into operation on 31st March, 1950, and the important difference between the provisions of the new and old Acts is that Borough and District Councils are now directly vested, whereas formerly the vesting was in County Councils with the right of delegation to Borough and District Councils willing to accept the duties. The new Act emphasises the primary obligation as being upon the local authority to ensure that, as far as practicable, its area is kept free of rats and mice.

Under authority of the new Act, treatment of private dwelling-houses has, since October, 1950, been carried out by the Council free of charge to occupiers, but charges covering labour and materials used are still made in respect of the treatment of business premises.

The Council's rodent control staff consists of a part-time operator working under the control of the Sanitary Inspector, a second operator being available for service if required. Both operators are trained in the scientific destruction of rats and mice, having received a course of instruction during the year held by the Infestation Control Division of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Council property, including refuse disposal site, sewage works, depots, cliffs, hut sites, etc., were regularly inspected dur-

ing the year with satisfactory results. Treatment of the four sewerage systems was also undertaken, when sewers were found to be practically free of rodents.

#### Prevalence of Rats and Mice.

No. of infestations notified	...	...	...	55
No. of infestations otherwise discovered			...	25
				—
Total	...	...	...	80
				—

#### Measures of Control by Council

No. of premises inspected	...	...	...	117
No. of inspections made	...	...	...	154
No. of treatments carried out	...	...	...	82

#### MOSQUITO DESTRUCTION

The spraying of mosquito breeding areas is carried out with Larvicide at the appropriate season of the year.

#### SUNSHINE AND RAINFALL

Total sunshine for the year was 1,648.5 hours, over 300 less than in the previous year, with a maximum of 14.7 hours on 29th June and 2nd July.

Rainfall totalled 17.88 inches for the year, the heaviest amount was experienced when 3.19 inches fell during the month of November. The greatest day fall was .99 inches on the 15th September. There were 172 rainless days during the year.

## SECTION D.

### HOUSING

**General.** A total number of 273 inspections were made of 163 dwelling houses, of which 54 houses were found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation. Thirty-eight dwellings were made fit for habitation as a result of informal action taken by the Council, and a further 12 houses made fit following statutory action. In addition, demolition orders were made in respect of three old cottages in the village of Great Holland, and closing orders were applied to five separate tenements found to be in defective condition. Housing complaints were dealt with as they arose, and action taken is included in the above figures.

Progress during the year is considered to have been satisfactory, but much remains to be accomplished. As reported last year, many houses are worn out and beyond repair, and the low controlled rentals make it uneconomic for owners to carry out the required extensive repairs and improvements. The houses will continue to deteriorate until such time as demolition becomes necessary.

**Hutted Camp, Great Holland.** The proposal to develop the Hutted Camp to form 25 units of accommodation was not proceeded with, as it was considered that the proposed development would probably be unsatisfactory and the conversion of Hutments far too costly. Subsequently, it was agreed in consultation with the Ministry of Health that the most satisfactory treatment of the Hutted Camp would be for Hutments to be demolished upon vacation, and this course is being pursued. At the end of the year, 17 families remained in occupation of Hutments.

**Requisitioned Accommodation.** Premises held under requisition for housing purposes number 57, housing 61 families.

**Council Housing Estates.** Six Council houses were constructed and occupied during the year. There are now a total of 122 Council houses in the area, viz.:

Frinton-on-Sea	...	...	...	...	...	16
Walton-on-Naze	...	...	...	...	...	68
Kirby-le-Soken	...	...	...	...	...	20
Great Holland	...	...	...	...	...	18

Inspections are made from time to time of Council houses and requisitioned accommodation, and tenants required to observe the conditions of tenancy regarding internal decorations and maintenance. In general the internal conditions of the premises has been found to be satisfactory, but there are a few tenants who require supervision.



A scheme has been prepared for the erection of 68 houses on the Bemerton Estate, Kirby Cross, and it is anticipated that a contract for the construction of the first group of houses will be entered into early in 1951. The number and type of houses proposed received very careful consideration and, when completed, the Estate will comprise:—

20 pairs of 3 bedroom type houses	...	...	40
3 Blocks of 4 x 3 bedroom type houses	...	...	12
2 blocks of 4 x 3 and 4 bedroom type houses			8
1 block of 4 x 1 and 2 bedroom type bungalows			4
2 pairs of 1 bedroom type bungalows	...		4
			—
			68
			—

Total Houses erected since 1946:

1946	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
1947	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
1948	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
1949	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
1950	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
							—
							28
							—

**Re-Housing of Inadequately Housed Persons.**

The shortage of housing accommodation for inadequately housed persons remains serious, and at the end of the year there was a total of 253 applicants on the Waiting List, including 109 families without separate homes. Twelve families were re-housed in Council Houses and requisitioned accommodation during the year. The “points” system of allocating available houses continued to operate successfully.

The completion and occupation of the proposed 68 houses on the Bemerton Estate will alleviate the local housing shortage to a large extent. Housing difficulties will not be entirely solved however, as a balance of inadequately housed persons are likely to remain on the Waiting List and, in addition, accommodation will have to be found sooner or later for families at present residing in requisitioned accommodation. Consideration will also have to be given to the re-housing of persons displaced from old properties in respect of which demolition action will have to be commenced within the next few years.

I.—Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year 1950:—

- (1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... ... 163
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... 273
- (2) Number of dwelling houses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... 54

## 2.—Remedy of Defects during the year without service of informal Notices :—

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

## 3.—Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—

### (a) Proceedings under Section 9 and 10 of the Housing Act, 1936

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	...	...	4
---	-----	-----	---

(2) Number of dwelling houses rendered fit after service of formal notice :

(a) By Owners	...	...	...	...	...	4
---------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	...	Nil
---	-----	-----

### (b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which legal notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	...	...	...	...	8
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :

(a) By Owners	...	...	...	...	...	8
---------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	...	Nil
---	-----	-----

### (c) Proceedings under Section II of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	...	...	3
---	-----	-----	-----	---

(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	...	...	Nil
--	-----	-----	-----	-----

### (d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act 1936.

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...	...	...	...	...	5
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been made fit	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

## **SECTION E**

### **Inspection of Food**

#### **MILK SUPPLY**

The register at the beginning of the year showed six Retail Purveyors. For full particulars see the Sanitary Inspector's Report.

#### **MEAT.**

Slaughtering is not carried out in this district except in cases of emergency. For particulars of meat and other food condemned see the Sanitary Inspector's Report.



## SECTION F

### PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Cases of Infectious Diseases Notified during 1950.

Disease	Total cases notified	Cases admitted to hospital	Total deaths
Scarlet Fever .. .. .	16	1	—
Poliomyelitis .. .. .	2	2	—
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis ..	1	1	—
Erysipelas .. .. .	3	3	—
Pneumonia .. .. .	7	—	—
Chicken-pox .. .. .	53	—	—
Measles .. .. .	31	—	—
Whooping Cough .. .. .	31	—	—
Totals .. .. .	144	7	—

Distribution of the cases notified :

	Frinton	Walton	Kirby	Gt. Holland
Scarlet Fever .. .. .	9	1	4	2
Poliomyelitis .. .. .	1	1	—	—
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis ..	—	—	—	1
Erysipelas .. .. .	1	—	2	—
Pneumonia .. .. .	4	—	3	—
Chickenpox .. .. .	—	48	5	—
Measles .. .. .	21	6	2	2
Whooping Cough .. .. .	6	10	9	6
Totals .. .. .	42	66	25	11

### DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

There have been no cases of Diphtheria in the district since 1943.

Immunisation is a duty of the Local Health Authority which is the Essex County Council, and Diphtheria immunisation is carried out on the first Wednesday in the month at the Congregational Church Hall, Station Street, Walton.

Immunisation is also carried out by the patients' own Doctors who are recompensed for these inoculations by the Local Health Authority.

As an example of what can be achieved quickly when a large part of the population makes up its mind to co-operate in a sustained effort to eradicate a killing disease, Diphtheria is outstanding.

It can be kept down only by sustained effort.

During 1950, 21 children between one and five years, and 1 between 5 and 15 years received the full course of inoculations at the clinic.

2 Children received a secondary or reinforcing injection.

## CANCER.

22 deaths were caused by this disease giving a rate per million of the population of 2675 compared to 1945 for England and Wales.

A disease such as Cancer is bound to produce more deaths in an aging population than in a population with a large proportion of young people, also some diseases were not so readily diagnosed during last century as they are to-day with our X-Rays, well equipped laboratories and improved facilities for diagnosis. These two factors account in part for the fact that the Cancer death rate has doubled since 1875. In recent years however, this index has been falling amongst women, and it shows signs of approaching its crest for men.

For cancer of some parts of the body, death rates are coming down at every age; for other parts they are falling at younger ages though not yet in the later periods of life, but for a few organs such as the lungs, mortality seems to be increasing.

If research workers can find out why Cancer of the lungs is increasing, the way to prevention may be found.

Cancer death rates for Frinton and Walton since 1933 (per 1,000 population) :—

1933	...	2.7	1941	...	2.0
1934	...	1.6	1942	...	2.3
1935	...	0.9	1943	...	2.0
1936	...	1.6	1944	...	3.3
1937	...	2.0	1945	...	3.6
1938	...	1.8	1946	...	3.2
1939	...	2.6	1947	...	1.8
1940	...	1.9	1948	...	2.6
			1949	...	2.8

# TUBERCULOSIS, 1950.

Particulars of cases notified and deaths occurring during the year 1950 are given below :—

Ages in Years	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0- 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1- 5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-25	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
25-35	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
35-45	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45-55	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55-65	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—

New Cases ... 1

Deaths ... 2

Notifications of Tuberculosis and deaths since 1939 :—

Year	New Cases	Deaths
1939	7	5
1940	3	2
1941	5	4
1942	4	4
1943	3	2
1944	4	1
1945	5	1
1946	2	1
1947	11	1
1948	7	2
1949	2	3
1950	1	2

The following figures give the number of cases on the Register at the end of 1950 :—

Respiratory Male ...	20	Non-Respiratory Male ...	7
„ Female ...	16	„ Female ...	12
Total ...	36	Total ...	19

TOTAL CASES ON REGISTER AT END OF 1950 ... 55

The 55 cases of Tuberculosis were notified as follows :—

Age groups in years	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Totals
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
1—5	—	—	—	4	4
5—15	1	—	2	5	8
15—25	4	5	1	2	12
25—35	4	6	2	—	12
35—45	6	3	2	—	11
45—55	3	1	—	1	5
55—65	2	1	—	—	3
65 upwards	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	20	16	7	12	55

Two deaths were caused by this disease, 1 case of pulmonary and 1 of non-pulmonary Tuberculosis. This gives us a death rate per million of the population of 243 which compares favourably with the figure for England and Wales which is 364, and is an improvement on the figure of 380 for the previous year.

One new case was notified during the year.

One of the tragedies of this disease is that the greatest incidence occurs in the age group from fifteen to forty-five; the majority occurring within the twenty-five to thirty-five years group. \*

## POPULATION OF ENGLAND AND WALES

There are three factors which determine whether a population shall increase or decrease—the factors of migration, births and deaths.

### MIGRATION

In this country, migration plays only a small part.

### BIRTHS

The rapid increase of the population in the nineteenth century was accounted for by the great excess year by year of live births over deaths and by the improving survival rates.

The annual number of births began to decline after the first decade of the twentieth century, and after the war, apart from 1920 when the maximum number ever recorded (957,782) took place, the decline continued at an accelerated pace to a level of less than 600,000 annually in the years 1933 to 1935. After these years there was a rise in the total, a trend which was on the whole continued during the late war. After the war the total rose still further, but has been falling since 1947.

### THE BIRTH RATE

The total number of births is related to the total population for the year to give what is called the birth rate. The highest birth rates were during the period 1865–1880 when they exceeded 35 per thousand population. From that time it fell practically continuously to a minimum of 14.4 in 1933 when the long decline appears to have been arrested, though in the first years of the late war, 1940 and 1941, it fell even further, the rate of 13.9 in 1941 being the lowest ever recorded. Thus the birth rate had already begun to decline when the total number of births in a year was still rising, and it was a considerable time before its continued fall was reflected in a reduction in the total of births.

### DEATHS AND THE DEATH RATE

The annual totals of deaths have varied much less than those of births, but similarly reached a maximum in the closing years of the nineteenth century and have since tended to fall.

These totals (as those of births) must be seen against the constantly rising population for their significance to be appreciated. From 1870 until now the annual figure has remained fairly steady at about half a million while the population has nearly doubled. The death rate for the past 30 years is about 12, and broadly speaking is half those of a century ago, but further analysis reveals that this improvement is very different at varying ages. It has been

greatest for children of school age; children under five come next, followed by young adults. From age 35 the improvement has diminished with advancing age so that after age 75 it is very slight.

This means that a child of the present day has a far better chance of surviving the early years of life than the Victorian child. The infant mortality rate was unchanged up to the turn of the century but afterwards it declined rapidly until it reached a record low of 29.8 infant deaths under one year of age per 1,000 live births in 1950. This rate is still considerably higher than in Sweden, New Zealand, Australia and Holland.

In 1948, only seven in every hundred deaths were of children under five years against forty in every hundred a century ago. On the other hand, the deaths of persons 65 years of age and over had in the same period increased from 18 to 60 in every hundred deaths.

Boys born in 1841 could, on average, expect to survive to the age of 40 and girls to 42; by 1948 these average expectations had increased to 66 and 71.

It may be true to say that the time is not too far off when the death of a school child from any cause other than violence will be a rarity.

## POPULATION REPLACEMENT

Continuous and adequate replacement by new births is essential if a population is not to fall below a given level. Potential mothers in one generation must produce sufficient girl children to provide an equivalent number of mothers in the ensuing generation. If they fail, a higher ratio must be achieved by the next generation.

In 1926 the General Register Office introduced the "Reproduction Rate" which is employed as the index of population replacement, for showing the extent to which mothers of one generation are producing more or fewer mothers for the next. The reproduction rate during the nineteenth century was well above the standard necessary to maintain the population. By 1922—1923 the rate had fallen below the standard and remained below until 1946 and 1947. In these years it rose to 11 per cent. and 20 per cent. above the standard, but for 1950 it has again fallen slightly below the standard.

The gain in population from death rates continuing to decline is, in future, not likely to be great, and any forecast of the future Birth rate is a venture upon uncertain ground. The total of births was running steadily in the ten years before the war at about 600,000, and if this number were maintained the population would ultimately be stabilised at about forty-one millions. The average annual number of births during the last 10 years was about 700,000, and if such an annual total were maintained, the popula-

tion would eventually increase to some forty-seven and a half millions and remain constant at that figure.

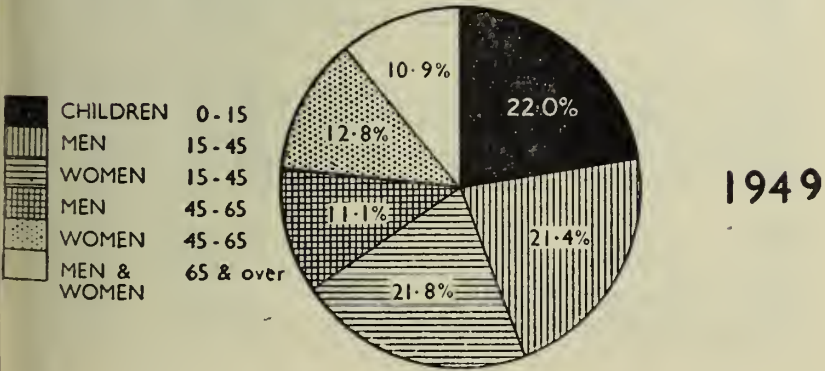
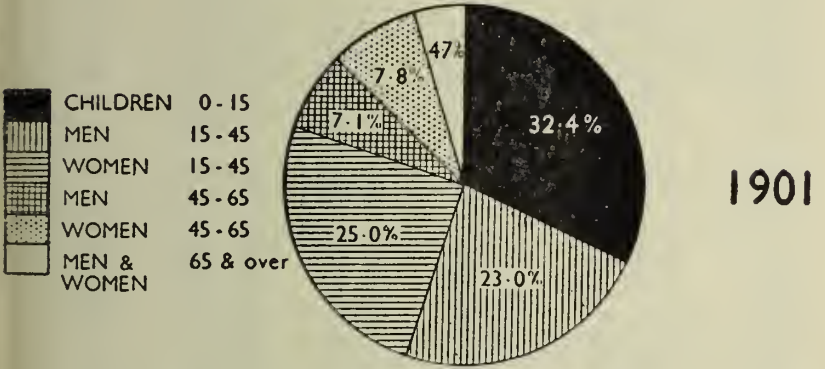
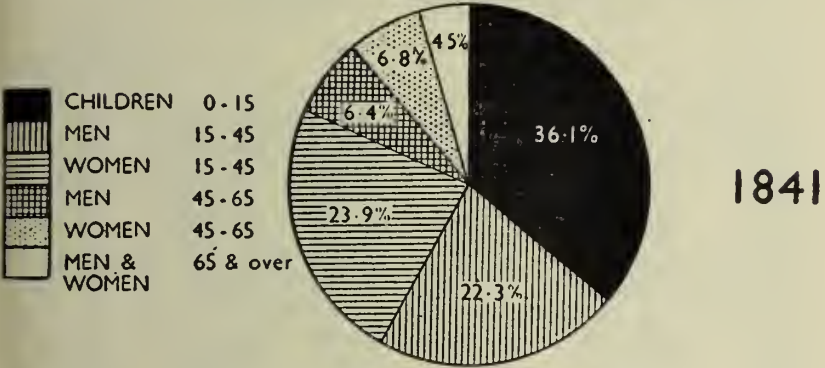
## CONCLUSION

The population of this country increased very rapidly during the nineteenth century, but the increase slowed down after the first decade of the twentieth century while the birth rate had fallen long before that. This bulk increase which is the result of the excess of births over deaths and of migration has been influenced by a great improvement in the death rate in the earlier years of life resulting in an improvement in the general expectation of life. This increased longevity however, has tended to obscure the real facts of the situation, for it has given the illusion of an increasing population when in fact the increase may be found merely among the numbers of the aged.

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# AGE PROPORTION OF POPULATION OF ENGLAND & WALES, 1841, 1901 and 1949





**Total Population, Live Births, Marriages, Deaths and Infant Mortality  
England and Wales. 1841—1949**

Period	Population	Live Births	Marriages	Deaths	In ant Mortality Deaths under 1 Year per 1,000 Live Births
1841	15,914,148	512,158	122,496	343,847	147
1851	17,927,609	615,865	154,206	395,396	154
1861	20,066,224	696,406	163,706	435,114	153
1871	22,712,266	797,428	190,112	514,879	158
1881	25,974,439	883,642	197,290	491,935	130
1891	29,002,525	914,157	226,526	587,925	149
1901	32,527,843	929,807	259,400	551,585	151
1911	36,070,492	881,138	274,943	527,810	130
1912	36,327,000	872,737	283,834	486,939	95
1913	36,574,000	881,890	286,583	504,975	108
1914	36,967,000	879,096	294,401	516,742	105
1915	37,291,000	814,614	360,885	562,253	110
1916	37,446,000	785,520	279,846	508,217	91
1917	37,531,000	668,346	258,855	498,922	96
1918	37,483,000	662,661	287,163	611,861	97
1919	37,362,000	692,438	369,411	504,203	89
1920	37,596,000	957,782	379,982	466,130	80
1921	37,886,699	848,814	320,852	458,629	83
1931	39,952,377	632,081	311,847	491,630	66
1932	40,201,000	613,972	307,184	484,129	64
1933	40,350,000	580,413	318,191	496,465	63
1934	40,467,000	597,642	342,307	476,810	59
1935	40,645,000	598,756	349,536	477,401	57
1936	40,839,000	605,292	354,644	495,764	59
1937	41,031,000	610,557	359,160	509,574	58
1938	41,215,000	621,204	361,768	478,996	53
1939	41,642,000	614,479	439,694	499,902	51
1940	41,862,000	590,120	470,549	581,537	57
1941	41,748,000	579,091	388,921	535,180	60
1942	41,897,000	651,503	369,744	480,137	51
1943	42,143,000	684,334	296,432	501,412	49
1944	42,449,000	751,478	302,714	492,176	45
1945	42,636,000	679,937	397,626	488,108	46
1946	42,737,000	820,719	385,606	492,090	43
1947	43,050,000	886,633	399,936	517,622	41
1948	43,502,000	776,971	396,891	469,898	34
1949	43,785,000	731,172	375,041	510,736	32

POPULATIONS BY AGE-GROUPS ENGLAND AND WALES. 1841—1949

	1841	1861	1881	1901	1921	1931	1949
ALL AGES	15,914,100	20,066,224	25,974,439	32,527,843	37,886,699	39,952,377	43,785,000
AGES LAST BIRTHDAY							
0—4	2,106,300	2,700,782	3,520,864	3,716,708	3,321,703	2,990,297	3,701,000
5—9	1,904,900	2,344,066	3,147,396	3,487,291	3,518,926	3,322,656	2,976,000
10—14	1,732,100	2,105,176	2,800,331	3,341,740	3,659,826	3,207,245	2,820,000
15—19	1,586,800	1,932,642	2,547,232	3,246,143	3,503,054	3,434,501	2,842,000
20—24	1,550,500	1,829,493	2,328,226	3,120,922	3,151,452	3,494,487	3,076,000
25—29	1,282,900	1,569,164	2,047,992	2,824,509	2,960,250	3,357,100	3,554,000
30—34	1,167,000	1,386,778	1,745,469	2,431,331	2,800,969	3,055,286	2,962,000
35—39	884,500	1,224,542	1,541,399	2,145,383	2,745,234	2,803,039	3,440,000
40—44	888,000	1,134,127	1,399,354	1,850,622	2,601,175	2,663,553	3,380,000
45—49	638,600	930,840	1,151,371	1,573,188	2,406,126	2,553,939	3,094,000
50—54	634,400	806,563	1,022,075	1,329,003	2,014,151	2,381,637	2,707,000
55—59	391,800	614,004	806,464	1,052,577	1,630,725	2,068,477	2,394,000
60—64	439,800	556,240	727,622	890,673	1,282,003	1,656,951	2,123,000
65—69	259,600	376,572	502,469	629,673	986,062	1,270,670	1,803,000
70—74	224,300	281,345	394,955	446,333	656,811	870,751	1,389,000
75—79	119,900	160,640	202,322	264,480	392,578	499,863	884,000
80—84	70,500	79,659	95,750	128,768	179,854	225,828	435,000
85 & over	32,200	33,591	38,148	48,499	75,800	96,097	205,000

